

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 09187 162242Z

65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05

SCCT-01 OMB-01 AID-05 /069 W
----- 060435

R 162230Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8356

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE QUITO 9187

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT EC

SUBJECT: BOMB BLASTS HIT QUITO TARGETS

REF: QUITO 8972

1. DURING THE EARLY HOURS OF TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 16, THREE BOMB BLASTS HIT QUITO TARGETS. ALTHOUGH NO INJURIES WERE REPORTED, SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF PROPERTY DAMAGE WAS CAUSED.

2. THE FIRST WENT OFF ABOUT 3 A.M. AT THE HOME OF ANDRES CORDOVA, AN 82 YEAR OLD FORMER CONSTITUTIONALLY-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ECUADOR, AND REPUTED CLOSE FRIEND OF PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LARA. THE BOMB WAS EITHER ATTACHED TO OR SET UNDER HIS VOLVO; WE HAVE HEARD FROM EYE-WITNESSES THAT THE CAR WAS DEMOLISHED. THE SECOND, WHICH WENT OFF ABOUT 3:30 A.M., WAS DETONATED AT THE HOME OF PEDRO JORGE VERA, LEFT-OF-CENTER JOURNALIST WHO WRITES FOR "NUEVA" AND IS REPORTEDLY THE DIRECTOR OF THE LEFT-WING "EL MUNDO". THE THIRD WENT OFF AROUND 4A.M. AT THE HOME OF JORGE FERNANDEZ, NEWLY APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL PLANNING BOARD. SET OUTSIDE THE FRONT DOOR OF HIS HOUSE, IT DESTROYED THE LIVING ROOM AND FOUR GENERATIONS' WORTH OF CRYSTAL, ANTIQUES, AND CHINA.

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PAGE 02 QUITO 09187 162242Z

3. THUS FAR THERE HAS BEEN VERY LITTLE COMMENT ABOUT THE

BLASTS OTHER THAN RADIO NEWS BULLETINS. THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SENDIP PROFESSED IGNORANCE AND SURPRISE WHEN THE EMBASSY PRESS OFFICER ASKED HIM ABOUT THE MATTER EIGHT HOURS AFTER THE EXPLOSIONS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THERE HAVE NOW BEEN CLOSE TO A DOZEN UNEXPLAINED BOMB BLASTS IN RECENT MONTHS IN BOTH GUAYAQUIL AND QUITO, INCLUDING DECEMBER 6'S BLAST AT SENDIP (THE GOE INFORMATION SECRETARIAT) HEADQUARTERS, AND A DYNAMITE BLAST WHICH DESTROYED GUAYAQUIL JOURNALIST HANNA MUSSE'S CAR ON NOVEMBER 12TH (QUITO 8369).
BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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